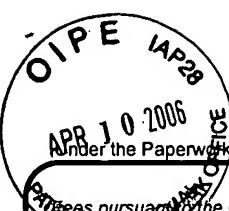


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Fee Transmittal  
For FY 2006

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT** (\$ 790.00)
**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/789,631
Filing Date	February 27, 2004
First Named Inventor	Chester S. McVay
Examiner Name	Hoang C. Dang
Art Unit	3672
Attorney Docket No.	HES 2003-IP-012179U1

**METHOD OF PAYMENT** (check all that apply)

Check  Credit Card  Money Order  None  Other (please identify): \_\_\_\_\_

Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 02-0383 Deposit Account Name: Baker Botts L.L.P.

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

Charge fee(s) indicated below  Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee

Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s)  Credit any overpayments

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

**FEE CALCULATION** (All the fees below are due upon filing or may be subject to a surcharge.)**1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES**

Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		Fees Paid (\$)
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	

**2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES**

Fee Description	Small Entity Fee (\$)
Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)	50 25
Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)	200 100
Multiple dependent claims	360 180

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)	Multiple Dependent Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
- 20 or HP =	x	=				

HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.

Indep. Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)		
- 3 or HP =	x	=			

HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.

**3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE**

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
- 100 =	/ 50 =	(round up to a whole number) x	=	

**4. OTHER FEE(S)**

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): Request for Continued Examination

Fees Paid (\$)

790.00

**SUBMITTED BY**

Signature		Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 35,960	Telephone 713.229.1732
Name (Print/Type)	Paul R. Morico		Date April 10, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



Application Serial No. 10/789,631  
Attorney Docket No. HES 2003-IP-012179U1  
EV 590024488 US

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

**CHESTER S. MCVAY ET AL.**

Serial No.: **10/789,631**

Filed: **FEBRUARY 27, 2004**

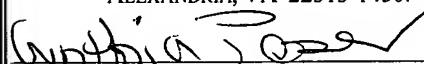
Title: **"ANNULAR PRESSURE RELIEF COLLAR"**

§ Group Art Unit: **3672**  
§  
§ Examiner: **HOANG C. DANG**  
§  
§ Atty. Docket No: **HES 2003-IP-012179U1**  
§

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING VIA EXPRESS MAIL

ATTY. DOCKET NO.: **HES 2003-IP-012179U1**  
APPLICATION SERIAL NO.: **10/789,631**  
GROUP ART UNIT: **3672**  
EXAMINER: **HOANG C. DANG**

PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE INFORMATION AND A REASONABLE BASIS FOR BELIEF THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL, POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW, AND IS ADDRESSED TO:  
**MAIL STOP RCE**  
HONORABLE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P. O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

  
CYNTHIA POSER  
APRIL 10, 2006  
EXPRESS MAIL LABEL: EV 590024488 US

**MAIL STOP RCE**  
**Honorable Commissioner of Patents**  
**P. O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

## REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

Dear Honorable Commissioner:

In response to the Final Office Action, mailed January 10, 2006, and in response to the Advisory Action, mailed March 15, 2006, Applicants respectfully submit a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) with the following remarks and amendments set forth below and request favorable action thereon. Because this response has been filed within three months of when the Final Office Action was issued, Applicants respectfully submit that this RCE is timely filed.

This request is being submitted before (i) the abandonment of this application; (ii) payment of the issue fee; (iii) the filing of a notice of appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for

04/12/2006 HDESTA1 0000021 10789631

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790.00 DP

Page 1

Response to Final Office Action,  
Mailed January 10, 2006

the Federal Circuit; or (iv) the commencement of a civil action under 35 U.S.C. § 145 or 35 U.S.C. § 146.

- **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper; and
- **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.